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Time to Put the Intelligence Work In Its Proper Perspective

SENATE Democrats are a bit
Mike Mansfield of Montana
is sounding a theme that makes
sense when he speaks out for a
Central Intelligence Agency that
operates more anonymously
than the present agency has.

This country has been unique
in the way that it makes na-
tional figures out of the men
who lead up intelligence agen-
cies in the federal government.
There is no reason for having
intelligence agencies in an age
when everyone knows that
Russia and the U. S. have the
power to obliterate each other.
They should operate in a
serious way.

But this country has always
insisted that they be operated
as if they are directed by
Folger and Allen Dulles and J.
Edgar Hoover would be recog-
nized by the average American
as quickly as Clark Gable.
Hoover, particularly, has re-

sorted to elaborate public rela-
tions devices to build an image
of himself as the master spy and
master cop. To help in this
building process he has cavorted
through the night clubs and
race tracks with such gossip
peddlers as Walter Winchell and
such public figures as Joe Mc-
Carthy.

His public relations program
has been so effective that there
isn't a member of Congress to-
day who dares to dispute him.
And the John Birch crowd pro-
claims him as virtually the only
American in public life who can
be trusted.

It's about time for our in-
telligence agencies to be put in
their proper perspective, as they
are in other countries. It's time
to stop thinking of intelligence
operations as though they were
something produced and di-
rected by Alfred Hitchcock.

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